

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 116105

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PDEV, SF, RH, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA AND RHODESIA: BRIEFING FOR YUGOSLAVS

REFERENCE: BELGRADE 3184 (NOTAL)

1. YOU MAY PROVIDE KOMATINA WITH FOLLOWING BRIEFINGS ON PRESENT STATUS OF NAMIBIA AND RHODESIA SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS.
2. NAMIBIA: FOLLOWING ONE YEAR OF NEGOTIATIONS THE WESTERN CONTACT GROUP (US, UK, FRG, FRANCE AND CANADA) PREPARED WHAT WE BELIEVE TO BE A FAIR AND BALANCED PROPOSAL FOR TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE IN NAMIBIA IN LINE WITH
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SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 385. AFTER UNPRECEDENTED FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL PROXIMITY TALKS IN NEW YORK FEBRUARY 11-12, THE FIVE MADE SOME REVISIONS ON THE PROPOSAL TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE CONCERNS EXPRESSED BY THE PARTIES. IN OUR DISCUSSION OF THE REVISED PROPOSAL, THE FIVE RECEIVED EXPRESSIONS OF SUPPORT FROM MANY STATES, INCLUDING THE FRONT LINE AFRICAN STATES. HOWEVER, THE AFRI-

CANS WERE UNWILLING TO ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES WITH SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSAL PRIOR TO THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION ON NAMIBIA AND IN THE ABSENCE OF REPLIES TO THE REVISED PROPOSAL FROM THE PARTIES.

3. WHILE THE SPECIAL SESSION WAS UNDERWAY SOUTH AFRICA ANNOUNCED ITS ACCEPTANCE OF THE WESTERN PROPOSAL, AN ACCEPTANCE WHICH WE REGARD AS SATISFACTORY DESPITE CERTAIN STATEMENTS WHICH ACCOMPANIED THE SOUTH AFRICAN ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACCEPTANCE AND WHICH WE BELIEVE WERE INTENDED PRIMARILY FOR SOUTH AFRICAN DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION. IN REPLY, SWAPO PRESIDENT SAM NUJOMA, SPEAKING BEFORE THE SPECIAL SESSION ANNOUNCED A LIST OF TEN AREAS IN WHICH HE BELIEVES FURTHER NEGOTIATION IS NECESSARY, AREAS WHICH CONCENTRATE ON ISSUES SUCH AS THE STATUS OF WALVIS BAY, THE LOCATION OF RESIDUAL SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES IN NAMIBIA AND THE ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS DURING THE TRANSITION. THE FIVE BELIEVE THAT THE PROPOSAL DEALS SATISFACTORILY WITH MOST OF SWAPO'S CONCERNS AND ARE PREPARED TO CLARIFY THEM FOR SWAPO.

4. WHILE WE FEEL THAT THE PROPOSAL IS NO LONGER SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATION, WE HAVE AGREED TO MEET WITH NUJOMA AND HIS COLLEAGUES IN NEW YORK ON OR ABOUT MAY 5 TO PROVIDE CLARIFICATIONS OF ANY ASPECT OF THE PROPOSAL AND TO

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DISCUSS "ASSOCIATED MATTERS" SUCH AS WALVIS BAY. THE FIVE BELIEVE THAT WALVIS BAY IS AN APPROPRIATE SUBJECT FOR NEGOTIATION BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICA AND AN INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA AND THAT THE LEGAL COMPLEXITIES OF THE ISSUE DO NOT LEND THEMSELVES TO RESOLUTION WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL. AT THE REQUEST OF BOTH SWAPO AND SOUTH AFRICA, THE PROPOSAL MAKES NO MENTION OF WALVIS BAY. WE ARE CONSIDERING HOW WE MIGHT OTHERWISE MEET SOME OF SWAPO'S CONCERNS ABOUT WALVIS BAY. WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT NATIONS FAVORING A PEACEFUL AND FAIR SOLUTION TO THE NAMIBIA QUESTION WILL URGE SWAPO TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL, AS WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THERE WILL BE ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR SUCH A SOLUTION IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

5. FYI: IN BRIEFING KOMATINA ON NAMIBIA, YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT YUGOSLAVIA HAS NOT ALWAYS BEEN HELPFUL BEHIND THE SCENES IN NEW YORK. YOU MIGHT USE OCCASION OF BRIEFING TO URGE YUGOSLAVIA TO COUNSEL SWAPO THAT IT SHOULD SEIZE OPPORTUNITY NOW OFFERED TO INTRODUCE UN FORCES IN NAMIBIA AND GAIN WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICA. END FYI.

6. IN RELATION TO RHODESIA, POST'S ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO ARTICLE WHICH APPEARED IN CFR NO. 17 OF APRIL 26 WHICH OUTLINED RESULTS OF VANCE/OWEN TRIP TO SOUTHERN AFRICA. YOU MAY DRAW UPON CFR PIECE IN BRIEFING GOY. MAJOR POINTS WE WOULD WISH CONVEYED ARE:

7.

A. WE AND BRITISH WILL NOT WAVER IN OUR CONTINUED EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT A NEGOTIATED, PEACEFUL AND INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA.

B. WE BELIEVE A MEETING OF ALL THE PARTIES IS THE MOST LOGICAL WAY OF PROMOTING SUCH A SETTLEMENT.

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C. DR. OWEN ANNOUNCED DURING DEBATE IN COMMONS ON MAY 4 THAT FCO UNDER SECRETARY JOHN GRAHAM AND AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO ZAMBIA, STEPHEN LOW, WILL RESUME THEIR NEGOTIATING ACTIVITIES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA DURING THE MONTH OF MAY.

D. THE PURPOSE OF THEIR EFFORT WILL BE TO PREPARE THE WAY FOR AN ALL-PARTIES MEETING BY ENGAGING IN SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE PARTIES WHICH MIGHT SERVE TO NARROW THE DIFFERENCES WHICH CURRENTLY DIVIDE THEM. CHRISTOPHER

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